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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/723,301	11/24/2003	David Anthony Tanner	50325-0846(Seq. No. 8505)	9486
29989 7590 09/03/2008 HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER, LLP 2055 GATEWAY PLACE SUITE 550 SAN JOSE, CA 95110			EXAMINER DUONG, OANH L	
			ART UNIT 2155	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/723,301	Applicant(s) TANNER ET AL.	
	Examiner OANH DUONG	Art Unit 2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 January 2008 and 03 June 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-57 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 37-54 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-36 and 55-57 are presented for examination.
Claims 37-54 have been withdrawn from further consideration.

Election/Restrictions

2. Claims 37-54 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 06/03/2008.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
4. Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kidder et al. ("Kidder"), US 2004/0031030 A1.

Regarding claim 1, Kidder teaches method for managing configuration data for a router (*i.e., configure and mange a particular type of network device such as router, page 5 paragraph [0109]*), the method comprising the machine-implemented steps of:
querying the router to determine a plurality of functional areas supported by the router (*i.e., page 5 paragraph [0109], page 11 paragraph [0155] and pages 12 paragraph [0163] - page 17 paragraph [0195]*): Kidder discloses configuration data is

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read/queried from the network device's configuration database and the determined/available functional areas (i.e., Modules, Port, SONET interface) are displayed at client);

generating and displaying a plurality of user interface objects on a graphical user interface (*i.e., Fig. 5A page 21 paragraph 0232*]), wherein each user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects corresponds to configuration data for one of the plurality of functional areas supported by the router (*i.e., The GUI includes configuration status window 897 for displaying current configuration, Fig. 7d, page 12 paragraph [0163] and page 21 paragraph [0229]*); and

in response to detecting a user selection of a particular user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects, allowing the user to modify the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object to generate modified configuration data (*i.e., "double clicking the left mouse button on a selected module may cause a dialog box to appear and the administrator may modify particular parameters, Fig. 7d, pages 12-13 paragraph [0164] and page 21 paragraph [0234]-page 22 paragraph [0237]*); and

sending the modified configuration data to the router (*i.e., "download the configuration change to the operational network device", page 20 paragraph [0223]*).

Regarding claim 2, this claim comprises a machine-readable medium for managing configuration data for a router, the machine-readable medium carrying instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more

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processors to perform a method claim 1, discussed above, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 3, this claim comprise an apparatus for managing configuration data for a router, the apparatus comprising a memory storing instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform a method claim 1, discussed above, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 4, Kidder teaches a method for managing network device configuration data (*i.e., configure and mange a particular type of network device such as router, page 5 paragraph [0109]*), the method comprising the machine-implemented steps of:

determining a plurality of functional areas supported by a network device (*i.e., “to manage a network device, the NMS interprets data gathered by programs running on each network device relevant to network configuration, security, accounting, statistics, and fault logging and presents the interpretation of this data to the network administrator”, page 5 paragraph [0109]*); and

generating and displaying a plurality of user interface objects on a graphical user interface (*i.e., GUI displays FCAPS status bars (i.e., user interface object), page 21 paragraph 0232]*), wherein each user interface object from the plurality of functional areas supported by the network device (*i.e., GUI provides status button for each of the five FCAPS/functional- area to represent a single network device*), Fig. 7d page 21

paragraphs [0229] and [0232]).

Regarding claim 5, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 4, further comprising the machine-implemented step of selecting the visual appearance of a particular user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects to reflect a state of the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object (page 19 paragraph [0214]).

Regarding claim 6, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 4, further comprising the machine-implemented step of in response to detecting a user selection of a particular user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects, retrieving, from the network device, configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object, allowing the user to modify the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object to generate modified configuration data (*Fig. 7d, page 21 paragraph [0234]-page 22 paragraph [0237]*); and sending only the modified configuration data to the network device (page 20 paragraph [0223]).

Regarding claim 7, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 6, further comprising the machine-implemented step of launching one or more of a plurality of application programs to allow the user to modify the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object (page 5 paragraph [0110] and pages 12-13

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paragraph [0164]).

Regarding claim 8, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 6, further comprising the machine-implemented step of changing the visual appearance of the particular user interface object to indicate to the user that the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object has been modified (page 11 paragraph [0158] and page 20 paragraph [0219]).

Regarding claim 9, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 6, further comprising the machine-implemented step of in response to detecting a user selection of another user interface object associated with committing changes in configuration data on network devices, sending to the network device a request for the network device to implement the modified configuration data (page 12 paragraph [0163] and page 14 paragraph [0175]).

Regarding claim 10, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 9, further comprising the machine-implemented step of in response to receiving a notification from the network device that the modified configuration data has been implemented by the network device, changing the visual appearance of the particular user interface object to indicate to the user that the modified configuration data has been implemented by the network device (page 12 paragraph [0162]).

Regarding claim 11, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 4, further comprising the machine-implemented step of in response to determining that a particular functional area of the configuration data has been modified after the particular functional area of configuration data was received from the network device, changing the visual appearance of a particular user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects to visually indicate to a user that the particular functional area of the configuration data has been modified after the particular functional area of configuration data was received from the network device (page 12 paragraph [0162]).

Regarding claim 12, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 4, wherein the step of determining a plurality of functional areas supported by a network device includes querying the network device to determine the plurality of functional areas supported by a network device (*page 5 paragraph [0109]*).

Regarding claim 13, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 4, wherein the step of determining a plurality of functional areas supported by a network device includes determining a plurality of functional areas supported by a network device and for which the network device and a client have compatible configuration application program interfaces (page 5 paragraph [0110]).

Regarding claim 14, Kidder teaches the method as recited in claim 4, further comprising the machine-implemented steps of:

in response to detecting a user selection of a particular user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects, retrieving, from the network device, configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object, displaying the configuration data on a graphical user interface (page 21 paragraph [0234]); and

in response to detecting that the configuration data retrieved from the network device is no longer consistent with configuration data implemented on the network device, changing the visual appearance of the particular user interface object to indicate that the configuration data retrieved from the network device is no longer consistent with configuration data implemented on the network device (page 20 paragraph [0219]).

Regarding claim 15, Kidder teaches a machine-readable medium for managing network device configuration data, the machine-readable medium carrying instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

determining a plurality of functional areas supported by a network device (*i.e.*, page 5 paragraph [0109], page 11 paragraph [0155] and pages 12 paragraph [0163] - page 17 paragraph [0195] : Kidder discloses configuration data is read/queried from the network device's configuration database and the determined/available functional areas (*i.e.*, Modules, Port, SONET interface) are displayed at client); and

generating and displaying a plurality of user interface objects on a graphical user interface (*i.e.*, page 11 paragraph [0155]), wherein each user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects corresponds to configuration data for one of the

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plurality of functional areas supported by the network device (*i.e.*, *The GUI includes configuration status window 897 for displaying current configuration, Fig. 7d, page 12 paragraph [0163] and page 21 paragraph [0229]*).

Regarding claim 16, Kidder teaches the machine-readable medium as recited in claim 15, further comprising one or more additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the step of selecting the visual appearance of a particular user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects to reflect a state of the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object (page 11 paragraph [0158]).

Regarding claim 17, this claim recites limitations that are similar to claim 6, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 18, Kidder teaches the machine-readable medium as recited in claim 17, further comprising one or more additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the step of launching one or more of a plurality of application programs to allow the user to modify the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object (page 5 paragraph [0110]).

Regarding claim 19, Kidder teaches the machine-readable medium as recited in claim 17, further comprising one or more additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the step of changing the visual appearance of the particular user interface object to indicate to the user that the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object has been modified (page 20 paragraph [0219]).

Regarding claim 20, Kidder teaches the machine-readable medium as recited in claim 17, further comprising one or more additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the step of in response to detecting a user selection of another user interface object associated with committing changes in configuration data on network devices, sending to the network device a request for the network device to implement the modified configuration data (page 12 paragraph [0163] and page 14 paragraph [0175]).

Regarding claim 21, this claim recites limitation that is similar to claim 8, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 22, Kidder teaches the machine-readable medium as recited in claim 15, further comprising one or more additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the step of in response to determining that a particular functional area of the configuration data

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has been modified after the particular functional area of configuration data was received from the network device, changing the visual appearance of a particular user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects to visually indicate to a user that the particular functional area of the configuration data has been modified after the particular functional area of configuration data was received from the network device (page 12 paragraph [0162]).

Regarding claim 23, Kidder teaches the machine-readable medium as recited in claim 15, wherein the step of determining a plurality of functional areas supported by a network device includes querying the network device to determine the plurality of functional areas supported by a network device (*page 5 paragraph [0109]*).

Regarding claim 24, Kidder teaches the machine-readable medium as recited in claim 15, wherein the step of determining a plurality of functional areas supported by a network device includes determining a plurality of functional areas supported by a network device and for which the network device and a client have compatible configuration application program interfaces (*page 5 paragraph [0110]*).

Regarding claim 25, Kidder teaches the machine-readable medium as recited in claim 15, further comprising one or more additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of: in response to detecting a user selection of a particular user interface object from the

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plurality of user interface objects, retrieving, from the network device, configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object, displaying the configuration data on a graphical user interface (page 21 paragraph [0234]); and

in response to detecting that the configuration data retrieved from the network device is no longer consistent with configuration data implemented on the network device, changing the visual appearance of the particular user interface object to indicate that the configuration data retrieved from the network device is no longer consistent with configuration data implemented on the network device (page 20 paragraph [0219]).

Regarding claim 26, Kidder teaches an apparatus for managing network device configuration data, the apparatus comprising a memory storing instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

determining a plurality of functional areas supported by a network device (*i.e.*, page 5 paragraph [0109], page 11 paragraph [0155] and pages 12 paragraph [0163] - page 17 paragraph [0195] : Kidder discloses configuration data is read/queried from the network device's configuration database and the determined/available functional areas (*i.e.*, Modules, Port, SONET interface) are displayed at client); and

generating and displaying a plurality of user interface objects on a graphical user interface (*i.e.*, page 11 paragraph [0155] and page 21 paragraph 0232]), wherein each user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects corresponds to configuration data for one of the plurality of functional areas supported by the network

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device (*i.e.*, *The GUI includes configuration status window 897 for displaying current configuration, Fig. 7d, page 12 paragraph [0163] and page 21 paragraph [0229]*).

Regarding claim 27, Kidder teaches the apparatus as recited in claim 26, wherein the memory further comprises one or more additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the step of selecting the visual appearance of a particular user interface object from the plurality of user interface objects to reflect a state of the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object (page 12 paragraph [0162]).

Regarding claim 28, this claim recites limitation that is similar to claim 6, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 29, this claim recites limitation that is similar to claim 7, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 30, this claim recites limitation that is similar to claim 8, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claims 31-36, those claims recite limitations that are similar to claims 9-14, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 55 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kidder, in view of Cezeaux, US 2002/0199184 A1.

Regarding claim 55, Kidder teaches the method of claim 4.

Kidder does not explicitly teach the configuration data for at least two of the functional areas in the plurality of functional areas share a common configuration data item.

Cezeaux teaches system and method wherein replication of configuration is provided (seen in abstract). Cezeaux teaches the configuration data for at least two of functional areas in the plurality of functional areas share a common configuration data item (i.e., page 2 paragraph [0027]).

it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the teachings of Kidder to share a common configuration data item between at least two of functional areas as taught by Cezeaux. One would be motivated to do so to avoid the difficulties of configuring each functional area individually (Cezeaux, page 2 paragraph [0027]).

7. Claim 57 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kidder, in view of Rider et al. ("Rider"), US 2004/0120344 A1

Regarding claim 57, Kidder teaches the method of claim 4.

Kidder does not explicitly teach determining, based on permission data, that a user has permission to access each functional area in the plurality of functional area.

Rider teaches system and method wherein a portion of data to be responsive to a first subset of access rights is configured (seen in abstract). Rider teaches determining, based on permission data, that a user has permission to access each functional area in the plurality of functional area (page 2 paragraphs [0032]-[0034]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the teachings of Kidder to teaches determine based on permission data, that a user has permission to access each functional area in the plurality of functional area as taught by Rider. One would be motivated to do so to enhance secure access of network elements (Rider, page 1 paragraph [0017]).

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claim 56 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

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9. Applicant's arguments filed 01/25/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In the remarks, applicants argued in substance that

(A) Prior art (i.e., Kidder) does not disclose determine a plurality of functional areas supported by the router.

As to point (A), Kidder discloses configuration data is read from the network-device/router and available/determined functional areas such as module, Ports, SONET interface are displayed in a configuration status window (page 12 paragraph [0163]-page 13 paragraph [0166]). Therefore, Kidder does disclose determine a plurality of functional areas supported by the router/network-device.

(B) Kidder does not teach launching one or more programs to allow the user to modify the configuration data.

As to point (B), Kidder does disclose launching one or more programs to allow the user to modify the configuration data (i.e., "Double clicking the left mouse on a selected module may cause a dialog box to appear and the administrator may modify particular parameters", pages 12-13 paragraph [0165]).

(C) Kidder does not disclose changing the visual appearance of the particular interface object to indicate to the user that the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object has been modified.

As to point (C), Kidder does disclose changing the visual appearance of the particular interface object to indicate to the user that the configuration data corresponding to the particular user interface object has been modified (i.e., provide one or more visual indications as to whether card is present in each slot or whether slot is empty, page 11 paragraph [0158]).

(D) Kidder does not disclose determining that a network device and a client have compatible configuration application program interfaces.

As to point (D), Kidder does teach “for which the network device and a client have compatible configuration application program interfaces” as recited in claimed 13 (seen in page 4 paragraph [0097]). It is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., determining that a network device and a client have compatible configuration application program interfaces) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Kidder does tea

10. As a result, the cited prior art does disclose method and apparatus for managing configuration data for a router as broadly claimed by the applicants. Applicants clearly have still failed to identify specific claim limitations that would define a clearly patentable distinction over prior art.

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11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to OANH DUONG whose telephone number is (571)272-3983. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 9:30PM - 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Oanh Duong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2155